Appln. No.: 10/750,132

Amendment Dated February 21, 2006 Reply to Office Action of February 10, 2006

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-16, 18-39, 43, 44 and 46-49 are pending. Claims 1-13, 19, 20, 22-27, 29-33, 37-39, 43, 44 and 46-49 stand rejected and claims 14-16, 18, 21, 28 and 34-36 are objected to. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 14-16, 18, 21, 28 and 34-36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. By this amendment applicant has cancelled claims 19 and 21 and has amended claims 1, 18, 20, 44 and 46. Accordingly, claims 1-16, 18, 20, 22-39, 43, 44 and 46-49 are presented for reconsideration.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

The Office Action at page 2, sets forth "claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-13, 19, 20, 22-27, 29-32, 37, 39, and 43, 44 and 46-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Jones-Lawlor et al. (6,321,034)."

Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is overcome by the amendments to the claims for the reasons set forth below.

As mentioned above, the Examiner has indicated that claim 21 contains allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the features of claim 21 thus obviating the outstanding rejection. In addition Applicant has deleted the feature from claim 1 previously indicated as allowable (the subject matter of original claim 17) in the Office Action dated May 31, 2005. Applicant submits therefore that claim 1 as presented is allowable over the prior art of record and respectfully requests that the claim be allowed.

Because claims 2-16 and 20, 22-26 and 31-39 depend either directly or indirectly on claim 1, these claims are likewise allowable.

Applicant has rewritten allowable claim 18 into independent form. Applicant respectfully requests therefore that the rejection of claim 18 be withdrawn and the claim allowed.

Further, applicant has amended independent claims 44 and 46 to include the features of allowable claim 21. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claims 44 and 46, as well as dependent claims 27-30, 43, and 47-49, be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

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In view of the amendments to claim 1, applicant submits that the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is obviated.

Applicant notes that claim 49 was not addressed in the detailed action, and respectfully requests that the Office indicated whether claim 49 would be allowable prior to the presently submitted amendments.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, applicant submits that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RatnerPrestia

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JLE/mhs

Dated: February 21, 2006

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

February 21, 2006

Mary H. Stephenson